

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 1, line 6 as follows.

--Various methods have been proposed and produced these days as multicolor image forming apparatuses using the electrophotographic image forming process. For example, exemplified are a multiple transfer method in which images in respective colors are sequentially formed on a transfer material carried on a transfer material ~~carrier~~ carrying member and in which those images are fixed after completion of formation of images in all colors, and a one-time transfer method in which images in respective colors are transferred to an intermediate transfer ~~body~~ member once and in which the images in all colors are transferred at a time and fixed to a transfer material after Completion of image formation of all colors done to the intermediate transfer ~~body~~ member. Furthermore, there is a method for doing a transfer process to a transfer material or an intermediate transfer material as a one process where image forming units for all the colors are arranged in parallel with respect to the transfer material ~~carrier~~ carrying member or the intermediate transfer ~~body~~ member. Those selections are properly chosen with respect to the targeted specifications such as the size, costs, and printing speed of the image forming apparatus.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 1, line 22 as follows.

--Fig. 5 is a schematic cross section showing an image forming apparatus most adapted to personal users among the image forming apparatuses described above realizing a compact size. It is structured that image forming units are surrounding a

photosensitive unit as a first image ~~carrier~~ bearing member as a center. Particularly, an intermediate transfer ~~body~~ member serving as a second image ~~carrier~~ bearing member realizes a compact apparatus by integrating with the photosensitive unit and accomplishes improvements in usability by reducing the replacement unit number.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 3 , line 23 as follows.

--Accordingly, the structure, which is simple and can be handled easily by the users, is an image forming apparatus having no isolation mechanism for the photosensitive unit and the intermediate transfer ~~body~~ member unit and being in a state that the photosensitive unit is always in contact with the intermediate transfer ~~body~~ member unit.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 4, line 1 as follows.

--However, with such a structure, the following problems may occur. (a)  
Where a photosensitive body unit detachably attached to an image forming apparatus and an intermediate transfer ~~body~~ member unit are attached to an image forming apparatus body, differences among period that the coupling is completed at respective units may occur. This is due to shapes of the coupling members or coupling phase differences of the coupling members when the coupling members are fitted. Those time differences appear as differences in timings for beginning driving at the respective units. The timing difference in beginning driving caused by the phase difference is of a phase difference of 120 degrees as the maximum value in a case of the triangle coupling members as shown in

Fig. 6, and the time difference to nullify the difference becomes the differences in timings to begin driving.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 5, line 25 as follows.

--It is another object of the invention to provide an image forming apparatus including ~~an image carrier movable~~ a movable image bearing member on which an image is formed; ~~an~~ a movable intermediate transfer ~~body member~~, ~~movable~~ being in contact with said image ~~carrier~~ bearing member, to which the image on ~~the~~ said image ~~carrier~~ bearing member is transferred, and a controlling means for starting ~~the~~ a drive of said image ~~carrier~~ bearing member after ~~the~~ a drive of said intermediate transfer ~~body member~~ is started.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 5, line 4 as follows.

--It is yet another object of the invention to provide an image forming apparatus including ~~an image carrier movable~~ a movable image bearing member on which an image is formed; a movable transfer material ~~carrier movable~~ carrying member for carrying a transfer material, and a controlling means for starting ~~the~~ a drive of said image ~~carrier~~ bearing member after ~~the~~ a drive of said transfer material body is started, wherein said transfer material ~~carrier~~ carrying member is in contact with said image ~~carrier~~ bearing member, and wherein the image on said image ~~carrier~~ bearing member is transferred to the transfer material on said transfer material ~~carrier~~ carrying member.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 7, line 8 as follows.

--The multicolor image forming apparatus is a laser beam printer using the electrophotographic process and is a color laser beam printer containing a first image carrier bearing member (photosensitive drum unit), a second image carrier bearing member (belt type intermediate transfer body member), and a plurality of developing cartridges (developing cartridges for yellow, magenta, cyan, and black), constituted of a rotatable developing unit 40.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 7, line 18 as follows.

--The electrophotographic photosensitive body 1 in a rotary drum type (hereinafter referred to as “photosensitive drum”) as the first image carrier bearing member is disposed in the apparatus body. The surface of the photosensitive drum 1 is processed to be charged evenly at a prescribed potential with a charger device 2. The photosensitive drum evenly charged receives laser beam L emitted from an exposure apparatus 3 based on an image signal, and an electrostatic latent image based on the image signal is formed on the photosensitive drum 1. When the electrostatic latent image passes by a developing cartridge 4Y (hereinafter referred to as “developing cartridge”) waiting at a position facing with a prescribed gap to the photosensitive drum 1 at a prescribed timing according to the rotation (arrow a direction) of the photosensitive drum 1, bias enabling the toner in a prescribed amount to be developed is applied to the electrostatic latent image, thereby visualizing the electrostatic latent image with an toner image developed by the developing cartridge 4Y. The visualized image on the photosensitive drum 1 is transferred to an intermediate transfer body member (hereinafter referred to as “intermediate transfer belt”)

in an endless belt shape serving as a second image ~~carrier~~ bearing member moving as in contact with the photosensitive drum 1 at a prescribed contacting width at substantially the same speed to the photosensitive drum 1 in the reverse direction to the photosensitive drum 1.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 17, line 27 as follows.

--Although in the respective embodiments described above, in the image forming apparatus of an intermediate transfer method, described are apparatuses obtaining color images in which a toner image is transferred from the photosensitive drum 1 to the intermediate transfer belt 5 and which the toner image is transferred to the transfer material P, it is applicable to an image forming apparatus for forming color images as shown in Fig. 7 in which a transfer material P such as paper is carried by a transfer material of bias to the transfer rollers 91a, 91b, 91c, 91d contacting to the belt. The carrying belt 90 as a transfer material ~~carrier~~ carrying member in a manner of electrostatic absorption or the like, in which the belt 90 on which the transfer material is carried is driven to convey the material with a drive roller 93, and in which the toner images are transferred in a multiple manner onto the transfer material from the photosensitive drums 92a, 92b, 92c, 92d upon application TOP detection described above is applicable to the transfer material carrying belt.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 18, line 19 as follows.

--As described above, in this invention, it is structured that the drive of the intermediate transfer ~~body~~ member (or transfer material ~~carrier~~ carrying member) starts before the start of the drive of the photosensitive body, so that occurrences of image defects caused by load deviations of the photosensitive body during image formation can be avoided.--